



Riverside Neighborhood Partnership

Minutes

November, 5 2001, 6:30pm
Mayor's Ceremonial Room
City Hall – 7th Floor

Members Present:

Manuel Carrasco, Chair; David McNiel, John Strzelewicz, Tom Martin, Jaime Hurtado, Marie Leggette, Phyllis Wells, Rosie Francisco, Barbara Brown, Paul Fick, Ed Adkison

Excused:

Absent: Bob Holstein, John Garcia, Ernie Hautala, Dana Kruckenburg, Phil Abraham, Brenda Flowers, Arthur Bos, Bruce Kulpa, Nancy Hart

Guests: Ken Robson, Randy Akyes, Jr., William Turpin

Staff: Eva Webster, Martha Matus, and Phuong Nguyen Office of Neighborhoods

1. Welcome/Self-Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Manuel Carrasco, Chairman, at 6:30pm. Self-introductions followed.

2. Approval of Minutes – October 1, 2001

General consent on approval of the minutes from October 1, 2001; with no corrections having been requested, minutes approved by chairman. Manuel Carrasco recommended that last names be used in the content of the minutes.

3. Reports from Subcommittees

A. Jack B. Clarke Good Neighbor Award – Jaime Hurtado, Chair

Jaime Hurtado reported that the subcommittee met on October 12, 2001, to discuss the nominations and select the recipient of JBC award. The subcommittee submitted the names of the two nominees that were decided upon due to a tie—Frank “Teddy” Jones and George Flower. Jaime’s recommendation to the committee is for the committee to vote on one recipient. Paul Fick motioned to submit two finalists for the “Good Neighbor” award, seconded by Tom Martin. John Strzelewicz motioned to continue with the one finalist, seconded by David McNiel. The motion to accept two finalists was carried by majority vote.

B. Neighborhood Pride Awards – David McNiel, Chair

David McNiel reported that the neighborhood pride award winners have been selected and notified. They were also invited to the awards ceremony on November 17, 2001. The invitation was extended to all committee members to attend the ceremony.

C. Neighborhood Matching Grant – Tom Martin, Chair

Nothing to report at this time. Applications may be obtained from the Office of Neighborhoods. The staff is doing outreach and information disseminated at neighborhood meetings, workshops, etc.

4. Recommended Amendments/Additions to the RNP Bylaws per City Attorney's Office

Eva Webster reported that the Interim City Attorney, Greg Priamos, reviewed and recommended the following amendments:

1. Bylaws do not set forth a term of membership in Article III if committee decides to amend to read a specific term.
2. The issue of quorum in Section 2 of Article VII. (Definition: A majority of all members of the partnership shall constitute a quorum).
3. Amend Section 3 to Article VII, all meetings shall be open to the public and include public comments as an agenda item and establish a time limit policy for public comments of two-three minutes.

The committee agreed to establish a Bylaws subcommittee consisting of Jaime Hurtado, John Strzelewicz, and Manuel Carrasco.

5. Neighborhood Conference and Leadership Training Workshop

Eva Webster provided information to the committee regarding the possibility the Neighborhood Conference and/or Leadership Training Workshop. The committee agreed to form a Conference Subcommittee consisting of John Strzelewicz, Tom Martin, Manuel Carrasco, Rosie Francisco, Paul Fick, and Marie Leggette to address the committee's involvement and participation in the organization and planning of the Neighborhood Conference/Leadership Training.

(Tom Martin/Rosie Francisco/carried)

6. Building RNP Membership/Nominations for Empty Seats

Manuel Carrasco reported that the RNP has empty seats on the committee that need to be filled. Bylaws state that vacancies are nominated by current representatives, and ratified by the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee. The Office of Neighborhoods has made neighborhood connections and suggested giving opportunity to new community leaders. David McNiell suggested that current members should be contacted this year regarding their continued participation. Staff will provide an attendance count of all members within the last three months to Manuel. Tom Martin suggested having list of alternates interested in membership.

7. Office of Neighborhoods – Update

- Eva Webster congratulated William Turpin for his efforts in working and organizing the apartment complex. Randy Akyes was also recognized as doing a one-man security patrol in the Arlington area and hopes to start a neighborhood organization.
- The Office of Neighborhoods is working on pulling together indicators and risk factors for the neighborhoods benchmarking projects so that it can be more useful for departments in focusing their efforts in neighborhood livability.
- Neighborhoods That Work awards is a first annual award implemented by the City Council and will be held at the awards ceremony on November 17th.
- Focus Group meetings held in Arlanza/La Sierra/La Sierra Acres and Magnolia Center neighborhoods on November 10th where neighbors committed themselves toward working together, setting goals, and strategizing a plan of action to meet their goals.
- At-Home-In-Riverside information has been disseminated to school districts in an effort to increase homeownership in collaboration with the Alvord and Riverside School Districts.
- Manuel Carrasco and Eva working together on a report to present to City Council.

- Eva introduced Phuong Nguyen, administrative clerk in the office who has been instrumental in organizing the office and automating files and databases.
- David McNiel commended Eva and staff for all the work done in the short time the Office of Neighborhoods has been instituted.
- Ed Akinson informed the committee that one of the reasons he supported the Rental Inspection Program was to gain an inventory of the rental housing in the area. One idea is to encourage neighborhood organizations to participate in the Home Fair to help increase homeownership.

8. Future Agenda Items

Manuel Carrasco reported that due to the current events in our nation the importance of disaster preparedness has become an issue of importance. He recommends that the committee participate and provide emergency preparedness training to neighborhood organizations. Eva Webster reported that Carmen Nieves is the Emergency Preparedness Services Coordinator that provides neighborhood emergency preparedness workshops to individuals and neighborhoods in the city. The Office of Neighborhoods in collaboration with the Emergency Services office has agreed to put together a three-part workshop. Manuel recommended that the workshops can be conducted in conjunction with the RNP's monthly meeting and held in Council Chambers to accommodate the people. The regular meeting can be held from 6:30pm to 7:30pm with the emergency preparedness workshop immediately following at 7:30pm. The first workshop will be personal preparedness, second workshop neighborhood preparedness, third CERT program overview. Letters and flyers will be going out to all neighborhood organizations and other connections established by the Office of Neighborhoods.

(Marie Leggette/Tom Martin/carried)

9. Other Business

10. Next Meeting: December 3, 2001, 6:30 p.m. City Council Chambers

Roving meetings will be discussed at the next meeting.

Paul Fick is excused for the December 3rd meeting.

11. Adjournment

Meeting notes prepared by the Office of Neighborhoods